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CERTIFIED TRUE COPY

By:

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STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
BOARD OF DENTISTRY

IN THE MATTER OF

JOHN P. LEONARD, D.M.D. License No. DI 10467

Administrative Action

INTERIM CONSENT ORDER

LICENSED TO PRACTICE DENTISTRY: IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY :

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Dentistry ("Board") upon receipt of information that John P. Leonard, D.M.D. ("respondent"), had been prescribing controlled dangerous substances in quantities giving rise to a concern regarding indiscriminate prescribing practices, had himself been prescribed significant quantities of Percocet by a treating dentist despite a prior history of substance abuse, and had been

convicted of a petty disorderly persons offense relating to lewd conduct. Specifically, respondent has written prescriptions for Percocet or its generic form to several patients, including his dental assistant, members of her family, and members of his own family, had been prescribed more than 1100 dosage units of Percocet during the period February 1998 through July 2000, and had pled guilty to harassment for the incident where he was nude in his dental office while mail was being delivered.

On October 17, 2001, respondent appeared with counsel, Carl Bergmann, Esq., at an investigative inquiry into the matter held by the Board. During his testimony, respondent stated that he had taken CDS prescribed by his treating dentist and had not advised the dentist that he had a history of substance abuse related to Percocet. Further, respondent acknowledged his records did not reflect treatment for patients on dates when he had written prescriptions for CDS for those individuals.

Having reviewed the entire record, including the testimony of respondent at the investigative inquiry, it appears to the Board that respondent through his personal use of CDS has lapsed in his recovery and that his prescribing practices are so far outside the prescribing norm that his continued ability to prescribe CDS at this juncture is not in the best interest of the public. The Board believes that a full psychological and physical evaluation of respondent is warranted and that participation in a monitoring program is essential. Based on respondent's willingness to abide by the terms of this consent order, the Board will defer the consideration of any sanction until such evaluations are completed.

THEREFORE, IT IS ON THIS TO DAY OF NOT., 2001

HEREBY ORDERED AND AGREED THAT:

- 1. Respondent shall cease and desist from writing prescriptions for controlled dangerous substances and shall submit his CDS registration to the Board immediately. Respondent shall notify the Drug Enforcement Agency of the suspension of his CDS privileges and provide a copy of that notification to the Board office. Those items shall be sent to Kevin B. Earle, Executive Director, New Jersey State Board of Dentistry, P.O. Box 45005, 124 Halsey Street, Newark, New Jersey 07101.
- 2. Respondent shall immediately enroll in the Physicians Health Program of the Medical Society of New Jersey ("P.H.P"). He shall, at his expense, submit to physical and psychological examinations as arranged through the P.H. P. and shall cooperate with any and all recommendations of the P.H.P. Respondent shall cause the P.H.P. to submit its recommendations for urine monitoring, counseling, and support group attendance to the Board for its review, after which the Board will enter an order setting forth respondent's obligations to participate in monitoring, therapy, and support programs and imposing other requirements as it deems necessary to ensure the public health, safety and welfare.
- 3. Respondent shall not possess any controlled dangerous substances except pursuant to a <u>bona fide</u> prescription written by a physician or dentist for good medical or dental cause in his own treatment. In addition, respondent shall advise any and all treating physicians and/or dentists of his history of substance abuse. Respondent shall cause any physician or dentist who prescribes medication which is a controlled dangerous substance to provide a written report to the Board together with patient records indicating the need for such medication. Such report shall be provided to the Board no later than two (2) days

subsequent to the prescription in order to avoid confusion which may be caused by a confirmed positive urine test as a result of such medication.

- 4. Respondent shall provide any and all releases to any and all parties who are participating in the monitoring, treating or other program as outlined in this order, as may be required in order that all reports, records, and other pertinent information may be provided to the Board in a timely manner. With regard to any requirement for submission of the quarterly reports to the Board, the beginning of the first quarter is deemed to have commenced October 15, 2001.
- 5. (a) Respondent shall be subject to an order of automatic suspension of license upon the Board's receipt of any information which the Board, in its sole discretion, deems reliable demonstrating that respondent has failed to comply with any of the conditions set forth in this consent order, including but not limited to report of a confirmed positive urine, or a <u>prima_facie_showing</u> of a relapse or recurrence of drug abuse.
- (b) Respondent shall have a right to apply for removal of the automatic suspension on ten (10) days notice to the Board and to the Attorney General. The Board may hold a hearing on that application before the full Board or before a committee of the Board. In the event a committee hears the application, its action shall be subject to

ratification of the full Board at its next scheduled meeting. In a hearing seeking removal of the automatic suspension, any confirmed positive urine shall be presumed valid.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF DENTISTRY

Emil Cappetta, D.D.S.

President

I have read and understand this Consent Order and agree to be bound by its terms. I consent to the entry of this Order.

John P. Leonard, D.M.D.

oct 25 2001

Date

I consent to the entry of this Consent Order as to form.

Carl Bergmann, Eşq

Date